GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:157
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
INDO-SINO SECURITY TALKS
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the second round of Indo-Sino Security talks was held in New Delhi in February, 2001

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the question of Kashmir was also discussed in the talks;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Chinese side thereto;

(e) whether any meeting of Indo-Sino Expert Group took place recently; and

(f) if so, the details thereof including its impact on the bilateral relations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir, on February 8, 2001.

(b) In this Round, both sides agreed to enhance mutual understanding, expand common ground in their approach to international and regional security affairs and narrow differences. They held similar views on a number of contemporary, regional and international issues.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Chinese side stated that it was completely opposed to all forms of terrorism. China did not wish to mediate and favoured a resumption of dialogue between India and Pakistan.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Eighth Meeting of the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials was held in Beijing on 13-14 Novembe 2000. The two sides exchanged maps of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Middle Sector.The two sides also discussed issues related to the implementation of the 1993 and 1996 Agreements on maintenance of peace and tranquility along the LAC in the India-China border areas, and confidence building measures, as well as other issues of mutual interest.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (f) OF THE ANSWER TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 157 TO E ANSWERED ON 07-03-2001

The second round of the India-China security dialogue was held in New Delhi on February 8, 2001.Both sides agreed that the aim of the dialogue is to enhance mutual understanding, expand common ground in their approach to international and regional security affairs and narrow down differences. They held similar views on a number of contemporary, regional and international issues such as the desirability of a genuine poly-centric and equitable world order, concern about effects of globalisation on the economies of developing countries and the continuing validity of the principles of Panchsheel.

Government`s interest in resumption of a composite dialogue with Pakistan on all issues was reiterated. It was also pointed out that, as long as violence and terrorism in J&K continues, there could not be any meaningful dialogue. The Chinese side stated that it was completely opposed to all forms of terrorism. China did not wish to mediate and favoured a resumption of dialogue between India and Pakistan.

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